



**Bath City FC Supporters Society  
7.30pm on Thursday 12 January 2017  
Twerton Park, Charlie's**

**Meeting Report**

Present: Martin Powell, Steve Skinner, Michael Clayton, Shane Morgan, Oliver Holtaway, Cheryl Bradley, Ken Loach.

**1. Apologies**

Colin Voutt, James Carlin, Marc Thomas, Jon Bickley, Phil Weaver

Sally Harris, the incoming board's community director, attended at the invitation of the chair.

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

Accepted by consensus.

**3. Matters arising**

- MC has shared draft of Society's post-Bid strategy.
- OH has shared proposal for visiting community-owned clubs.
- MP has circulated a copy of the existing club volunteer structure to board members (although noted that it is somewhat out of date).
- OH has emailed Society Secretary vacancy to all members.
- MP confirms that we are paid up as Supporters Direct members.
- Pending: PW to draft description of Society lottery role.

**4. Community Ownership Update**

Society members were sent an update on 30 Dec from Paul Williams, Nick Blofeld and MP. This also appeared on the club website and in the programme.

(This sparked some discussion about how to get more regular coverage of Bid developments and Society news in the programme. **ACTION POINT:** Board suggests that 1000BC group, headed by JB, considers how to get more out of the programme as a channel of communication and liaises with the programme editor.)

A **shadow board meeting** took place in December. There was some discussion of football matters and a legal update. As reported to members, there is a delay in the timing of a future club AGM while the club explores social lending options to replace existing debt. That said, the social lenders are aware that we need a decision sooner rather than later.

A provisional redevelopment working group has been set up and is seeking new members. The other working groups are hoped to be in place by the end of January. This has been communicated to members.

**Legal:** Simon Thorp of Onside Law, the Society's lawyers, gave a confidential update to the Society board regarding the progress towards the Society taking a majority stake in the club, to ensure that Society board fully understands the implications of the process.

## **5. Society strategy and role post-Bid**

MC briefly presented his initial outline. He has met with Nick B and will create draft terms of reference, based on the traditional PLC / exec board model. MC will share that soon. This document will also reflect the Society's standing order on governance and accountability. It was recognised that the wider membership will need to authorise the final arrangement.

The initial thinking of those present is that the Society board should help to set the general direction of the club and act as the conscience and supervisor of the club board – not micro-managing, but receiving, scrutinising and challenging the club board's plans. It was recognised that, while 6 of 9 club board directors will be elected by Society members from 2018 onwards, the Society board nevertheless has more of a "watching brief" to *represent* members.

Two considerations arose from this. First, once the purpose of the Society board is agreed, it may be necessary to look again at what we need in terms of skills and numbers on the Society board – particularly if the Society board is expected to scrutinise the activities of all working groups etc. Second, if the Society board is to scrutinise the work of the club board, we may need to think about whether it is appropriate for members to sit on both boards at once. At present, SM, MP and JB are both Society board members and incoming club board members.

## **6. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

NB Because the community ownership update with Onside Law took up most of the meeting, the following items were deferred to the next meeting:

- Society Secretary replacement
- Update on visits to other clubs
- Bid delivery (certificates, badges etc)
- Member Liaison Activity
- Board activity report
- Distribution of proceeds from I, Daniel Blake screening
- Treasurers Report
- Spirit of Bath City nominations

It was agreed to hold another meeting in two weeks to catch up.

## **15. DOTM**

Thursday 26 January.